TRADE AND INDUSTRIES

the State by the end of March, 1956. A sum of Rs. 55·95 lakhs had been spent on those Blocks during the First Five-Year Plan period. The peoples' contribution on account of their participation in Community Development Work has been estimated at Rs. 19·80 lakhs. Short-term loans distributed to the ryots amounted to Rs. 15·21 lakhs.

(vi) Industrial Labour.

General

887. The Commissioner of Labour also continued to be the Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers, Workmen's Compensation Commissioner for the State, Conciliation Officer for the State under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Chief Inspector of Plantations, Registrar of Trade Unions, Statistics Authority under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942 and Certifying Authority under the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act.

888. The Labour conditions in the State were generally peaceful during the year except for a few disturbances here and there. In all such cases due to constant vigilance and timely intervention by departmental officers the situation was brought under control resulting in the restoration of normal conditions with minimum loss of production.

Industrial Disputes.

889. During the year, ninety-eight industrial disputes were investigated and of these, 49 disputes were settled by conciliation, six by mutual agreement between the parties themselves, one was withdrawn, 35 ended in failure and seven were pending disposal at the end of the year.

Strikes and Lock-outs.

890. There were 39 cases of strikes and lockouts during the year. The total number of workers involved in the strikes and lock-outs and the total number of man-days lost during the period were 87,224 and 1,46,807 respectively. A sum of Rs. 24,297-9-6 was lost by workers by way of wages.

Lay offs.

891. There were nine cases of lay offs during the year.

892. During the year, 333 complaints were received of which, 268 were disposed of leaving a balance of 65 at the close of the year. No prosecution was launched under the Industrial Disputes Act during the year.

Complaints and prosecutions under Industrial Disputes Act.

893. The State Government referred 21 cases for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal and of these, 11 cases were disposed of.

Public Utility Services.

894. The Bangalore Transport Co. Ltd., Bangalore was declared as a Public Utility Service for a further period of six months from 29th December, 1955. The Air Transport Services (including the Indian Air-lines Corporation and Air India International) within the State was declared as a Public Utility Service for a period of six months from 1st October 1955. Also, the Iron and Steel Industry was declared as a Public Utility Service for six months from 1st January 1956.

Payment of Wages Act.

895. Under the Payment of Wages Act, seven complaints were received and cases were launched in respect of two.

Minimum Wages Act.

896. Minimum rates of wages have been fixed by Government for nine out of twelve employment in part I of the Schedule and for employment in Agriculture covered by Part II of the Schedule.

897. The Inspectors under the said Act visited 308 scheduled industries and launched prosecutions in respect of two industries.

Shops and Establishments Act.

898. The Mysore Shops and Establishments Act was in force in the Bangalore Corporation area, Mysore, Davangere City, Bangarpet, K. G. F. area, Kolar Town, Tumkur Town, Tiptur, Mandya, Chikmagalur Town, Bhadravati Town, Shimoga Town, Bellary and Hospet.

899. The Assistant Commissioners of Labour were empowered as Appellate Authority under section 41 of the Mysore Shops and Establishments Act in order that the workers of mofussil towns might secure speedy relief.

Consumer's Price index.

900. Every month the Consumer's price index figures were compiled for nine cities and towns and published in the *Mysore Gazette* for the benefit of employers of some of the industrial concerns who were paying dearness allowance based on the index numbers published by the Department.

TRADE AND INDUSTRIES

901. The following is the abstract showing the maximum, minimum and the average index numbers during the year for the several places.

Name of the place	Maximum	Minimum	Average
1. Bangalore City	324·7	300·7	312·6
2. K. G. F.	370·1	335·7	344·0
3. Mysore	314·8	291·2	301·9
4. Bellary	370·4	319·3	340·9
5. Bhadravati	336·1	293·0	310·6
6. Davangere	346·5	317·0	329·1
7. Harihar	330·5	295·8	323·5
8. Mandya	310·2	296·4	305·5
9. Hassan	311·6	272·0	297·1

Propaganda and Publicity.

902. The Mysore Labour Gazette was compiled in English, Kannada and Tamil for publication every month from 1st April 1955 to 6th August 1955 when the establishment with the work was transferred to the office of the Principal Information Officer.

903. As a part of the programme of publicity and propaganda, the Department participated in the Dasara Exhibition at Mysore and exhibited charts, posters, models etc., bearing on labour statistics, labour welfare, safety and welfare measures.

Labour Welfare Centres.

904. The Department is running two labour welfare centres in the working class areas in Bangalore City. Facilities for recreation, reading room, sports, gymnacium, library, indoor games etc., were provided to the labourers.

905. A grant-in-aid of Rs. 100 p.m. to each was given to the Seva Ashram, Srirampuram and the Labourers Fellowship Settlement, Seshadripuram, Bangalore, which impart education to the children of labourers free of cost and afford facilities like reading room, library, sports, etc., for the benefit of the children of labourers.

(vii) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

906. There were 55 cases pending disposal in the courts of the Commissioners for workmen's compensation at the beginning of the year. The number of cases filed in respect of both industrial accidents and occupational diseases were 4,507, of which 90 related to fatal accidents, 375 to permanent disablement cases and 4,042 to temporary